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4/4 Election
J. Steptoe
5/6/03

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Bolesh J. Skutnik
Serial No. : 10/042,976
Filed : January 9, 2002
For : DEVICE AND METHOD TO SCATTER OPTICAL FIBER OUTPUT
Examiner : Daniel E. Valencia
Art Unit : 2874

CERTIFICATE OF FIRST CLASS MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class mail, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents, Mail Stop: NON-FEE, Box: 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on:

Date : April 23, 2003
By : Bolesh J. Skutnik
Signature : *Bolesh J. Skutnik*

ELECTION/RESTRICTION

Commissioner of Patents
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Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated April 3, 2003, having a shortened thirty day statutory period for response which expires May 3, 2003, we request that you please accept the following remarks as to the above-identified patent application:

REMARKS

First it should be noted that the subject of this invention is diffuser tips or diffuser sections for optical fibers prepared from nanoporous silica cladding on silica cores. The methods described in claims 14-20 make exactly only products described within the product claims 1-13. Each calls for creating a nanoporous silica cladding on a fiber core and then processing a section to create specific scattering sites with different geometrical structures compatible with the optical fiber. To the extent that the diffusers specified in the product claims are integral light diffuser